

## Message Text

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16

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20 RSC-01

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( ISO ) W

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R 010215Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0289

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

COMUSJAPAN FUCHU JAPAN

COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JAPAN

COMFAIRWESPAC ATSUGI JAPAN

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMCONSUL SAPPORO

CONFIDENTIAL TOKYO 2699

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJ: P-3 OPERATIONS AT MISAWA

SUMMARY: USN PLANS TO ESTABLISH ONE-THIRD OF P-3 SQUADRON AT MISAWA APRIL 1 TO BEGIN VIRTUALLY ALL ASPECTS OF OPERATIONS EXCEPT HEAVY MAINTENANCE. FONOFF TOLD EMBASSY THAT USN PLAN WOULD CREATE PROBLEMS FOR GOJ. MAYOR OF MISAWA IS NOT YET FULLY ACCOMMODATED TO P-3 RELOCATION, AND FONOFF WILL HAVE HARDER TIME CONVINCING MINISTRY OF FINANCE OFFICIALS AT BUDGET TIME LATER THIS YEAR OF ESSENTIALITY OF SOME OF THE P-3 RELATED JFAP CONSTRUCTION AT MISAWA. END SUMMARY.

1. FONOFF (TERADA) ASKED EMBOFF FEBRUARY 27 WHETHER THREE P-3'S WILL BE MOVED FROM IWAKUNI TO MISAWA ON QTE PERMANENT UNQTE BASIS SOMETIME IN MARCH. TERADA SAID THAT FONOFF HAD RECEIVED THIS INFORMATION VIA JDA FROM JASDF HEADQUARTERS AT MISAWA.

2. UPON CHECKING WITH USFJ, EMBASSY WAS TOLD THAT USN DID

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HAVE PLANS (NOT YET IN FINAL FORM) TO SEND ONE-THIRD OF P-3

SQUADRON (I.E. THREE AIRCRAFT PLUS SUPPORT PERSONNEL) TO MISAWA TO BEGIN OPERATIONS FROM APRIL 1. MAIN REASON FOR THIS MOVE WAS FUEL CONSERVATION. THE P-3 DETACHMENT WILL CARRY OUT ALL NORMAL FUNCTIONS EXCEPT HEAVY MAINTENANCE. SUCH FUNCTIONS WILL REQUIRE USE OF HANGARS, SHOPS, AND OTHER FACILITIES. OPERATION WILL BE CONTINUED UNTIL WINTER CONDITIONS SET IN NEXT FALL.

3. EMBOFF PASSED SUBSTANCE OF PARA TWO TO TERADA, EMPHASIZING THAT P-3'S HAVE BEEN SENT ON ROTATION FROM IWAKUNI TO MISAWA OVER PAST YEAR OR TWO, ADMITTEDLY SPORADICALLY, AND THAT APRIL 1 MOVE APPEARS NECESSITATED BY CURRENT FUEL SHORTAGE. UNTIL ALL P-3 CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED AT MASAWA, PLANS WILL HAVE TO BE ROTATED FAIRLY FREQUENTLY TO IWAKUNI FOR MAINTENANCE. THEREFORE, THEY WILL NOT BE QTE BASED UNQTE AT MISAWA IN FULL SENSE OF THE WORD.

4. TERADA SAID THAT EVEN IF THIS WERE THE CASE, HE FORESAW DIFFICULTIES AHEAD ON TWO COUNTS. FIRST, MISAWA MAYOR AND COMMUNITY HAVENOT YET BEEN WON OVER TOWARD ACCEPTANCE OF P-3 OPERATIONS AT MISAWA, OPPOSITION SENTIMENTS HAVING BEEN AGGRAVATED IN RECENT MONTHS BY TRAINING OF MIDWAY AIRCRAFT AT THE BASE, MISAWA NOW MAY MAKE ADDITIONAL DEMANDS ON GOJ. SECOND, FONOFF UNDOUBTEDLY WOULD HAVE HARDER TIME CONVINCING MINISTRY OF FINANCE OFFICIALS OF NEED FOR P-3 RELATED CONSTRUCTION AT MISAWA (JFAP CATEGORY VIII PROJECTS) AT BUDGET SUBMISSION TIME LATER THIS YEAR.

5. COMMENT: WE ENTIRELY AGREE WITH TERADA'S TWO POINTS. WOULD APPRECIATE NAVY COMMENT AND ANY GUIDANCE FROM DEPARTMENT.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, CONSTRUCTION, MILITARY BASES, MILITARY AGREEMENTS  
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**Decapton Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** MARR, JA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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